THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c): The operational responsibility for implementation of Public Distribution System (PDS) is that of the State Governments and UT Administrations. Decisions relating to intra region allocation, issue of ration cards, eligibility criteria etc. are taken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, to ensure peoples participation in the functioning of PDS at the grass root level, the Central Governmen had advised all the States/UTs to constitute fair price shop level vigilance committees in the areas covered under Revamped Public Distribution (RPDS). The Government of Gujarat had reported the constitution of 4120 fair price shop leel vigilance committees as on 31st August, 1994 in the RPDS areas.

Supply of foodgrains and essential commodities at subsidised rates by State Governments

807. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have announced supply of foodgrains and essential commodities at subsidised rates through Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the State Governments have approached the Central Government for assistance in meeting the cost of subsidies; and

(c) what is the response of the Central Government to these requests?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Bulk allocations of Public Distribution System (PDS) commodities are made by Central Government to State Governments/UT Administrations. Foodgrains are issued at subsidised Central Issue Prices for the PDS. The State Governments/UTs further add, on their own incidentals and supply these through Fair Price Shops at end retail Prices fixed by them. In case of areas covered under the Revamped PDS (RPDS) Central Government supplies foodgrains at specially subsidised prices which are Rs. 50/- less per quintal than the central issue price for normal PDS areas. It has been stipulated that the end retail prices of foodgrains in the RPDS areas should not exceed the specially subsidised Central Issue Price by more than 25 paise per kg. Some State Governments/UT Administrations are on their own, distributing foodgrains through PDS/RPDS at prices which are lower than the Central Issue Prices of foodgrains. Subsidy on this account is being borne by the State Governments.

The Central Government has received a request from Government of Andhra Pradesh for a Central grant to cover an estimted expenditure of Rs. 1265 crores in 1995-96 on their scheme for supplying rice at the rate of Rs. 2/- kg. As the Central Government makes available foodgrain for the Public Distribution System to all States/UTs at uniform central issue prices on which the Central Government incurs subsidy, there is no proposal to give additional grants or subsidy for this purpose in any State/UT

Cases pending before consumer forum and State Commission

808. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to tsates:

(a) how many cases are pending before each Consumer forum in Delhi at present;

(b) how many complaints were received and disposed off by each forum during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any vacancy in these fora if so, details thereof;

(d) the number of complaints received and, disposed off during the last three years by the State Commission;

(e) whether there is any vacancy in State Commission;

(f) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of fora in Delhi; if so the details thereof; and

(g) if not what steps are being taken to dispose off complaints pendinf before the fora and commission speedily?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) As on February, 1995, 4231 cases are pending with district Forum I and 4837 cases are pending in District Forum II.

Name of District Forum	Year	Received	Disposed
District Forum I	1992	3242	2741
	1993	3320	1997
	1994	2642	2476
District Forum II	1992	2536	776
	1993	3522	2189
	1994	3889	2544

(c) One post of Member is vacant in District Fourm I

(d) STATE COMMISSION

Year	Complaints		Appeals	
	Received	Disposed	Received	Disposed
1992	728	264	225	123
1993	685	456	624	173
1994	370	426	656	637

(e) One post of Memeer is vacant in State Commission.

(f) There is a proposal to set up two more District for as in Delhi.

(g) Does not arise.

Ration Card Holders in the Country

809. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of ration and holders in the country State-wise;

(b) whether the allocation of essential commodities to the States is based on population or on the number of ration cards issued by each State;

(c) wrether the retail price of essential commodities through Public Distribution System is uniform or fixed by each State; and

(d) how many public distribution outlets are functioning in the country; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC